

# **Population Trends in Rural Alaska**

**Planning Work Group Session  
Denali Commission  
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# Alaska's Population

**Total Population**                      **679,720**

Anchorage                      (284,994)

Mat-Su Borough                      (82,515)

Fairbanks (FNSB)                      (89,896)

Juneau                      (30,427)

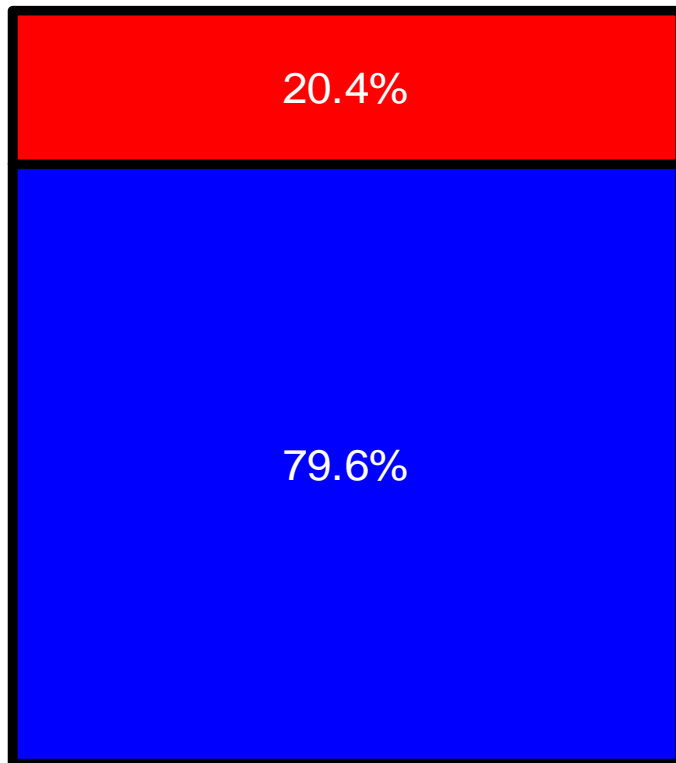
Kenai Peninsula Borough                      (52,990)

**= Rural Population**                      **=138,898**

# Alaska's Small Rural Population Lives in a Large Area

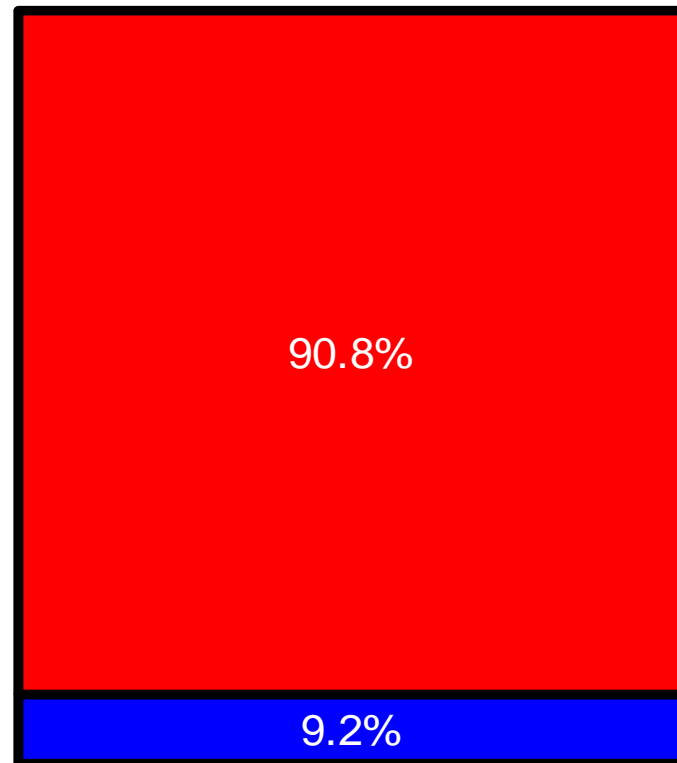
AK 2008 Population

679,720 People



AK Geography

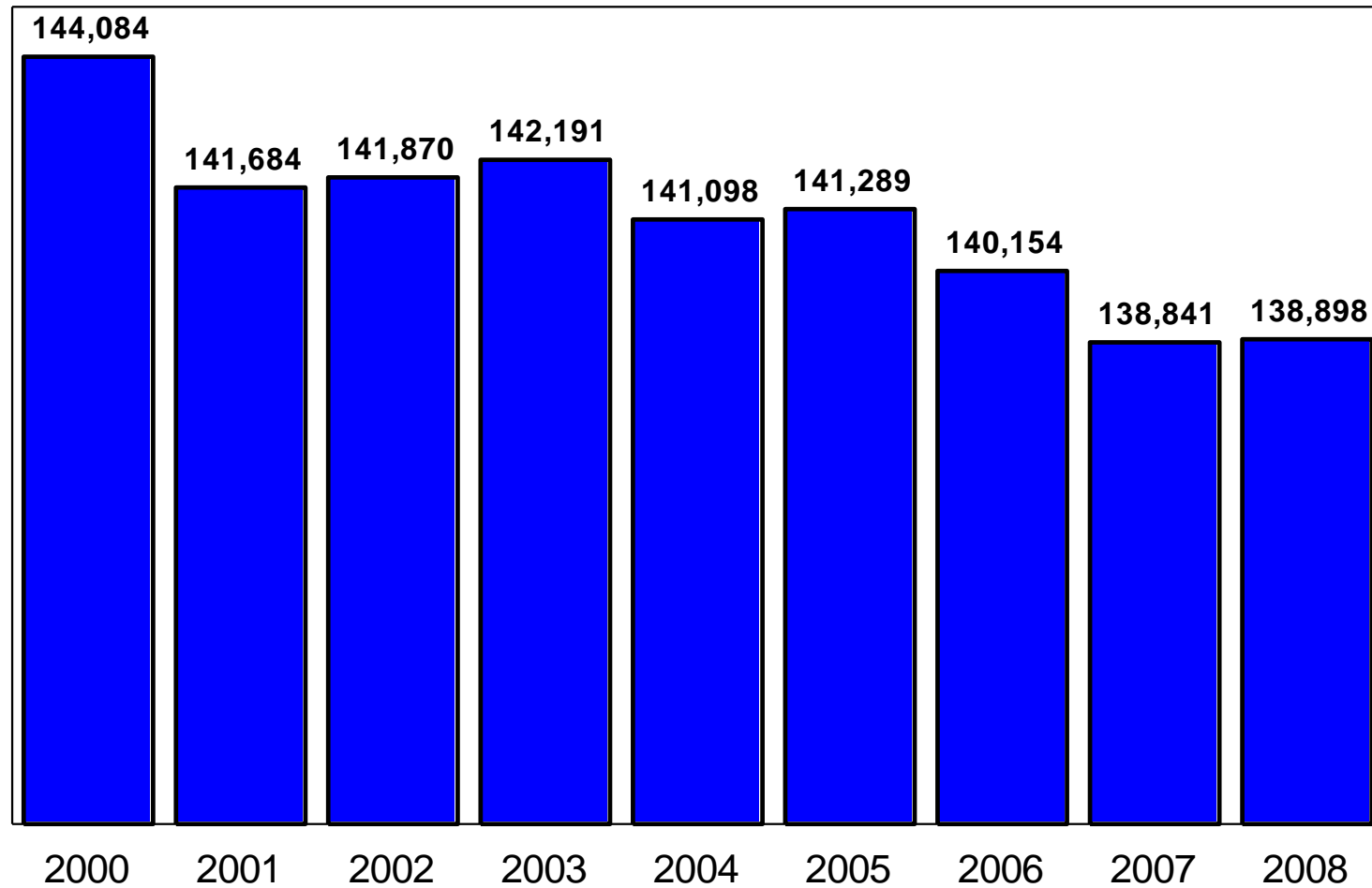
570,373.6 Square Miles



Source: AK Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

# Alaska's Rural Population Trend 2000 -2008

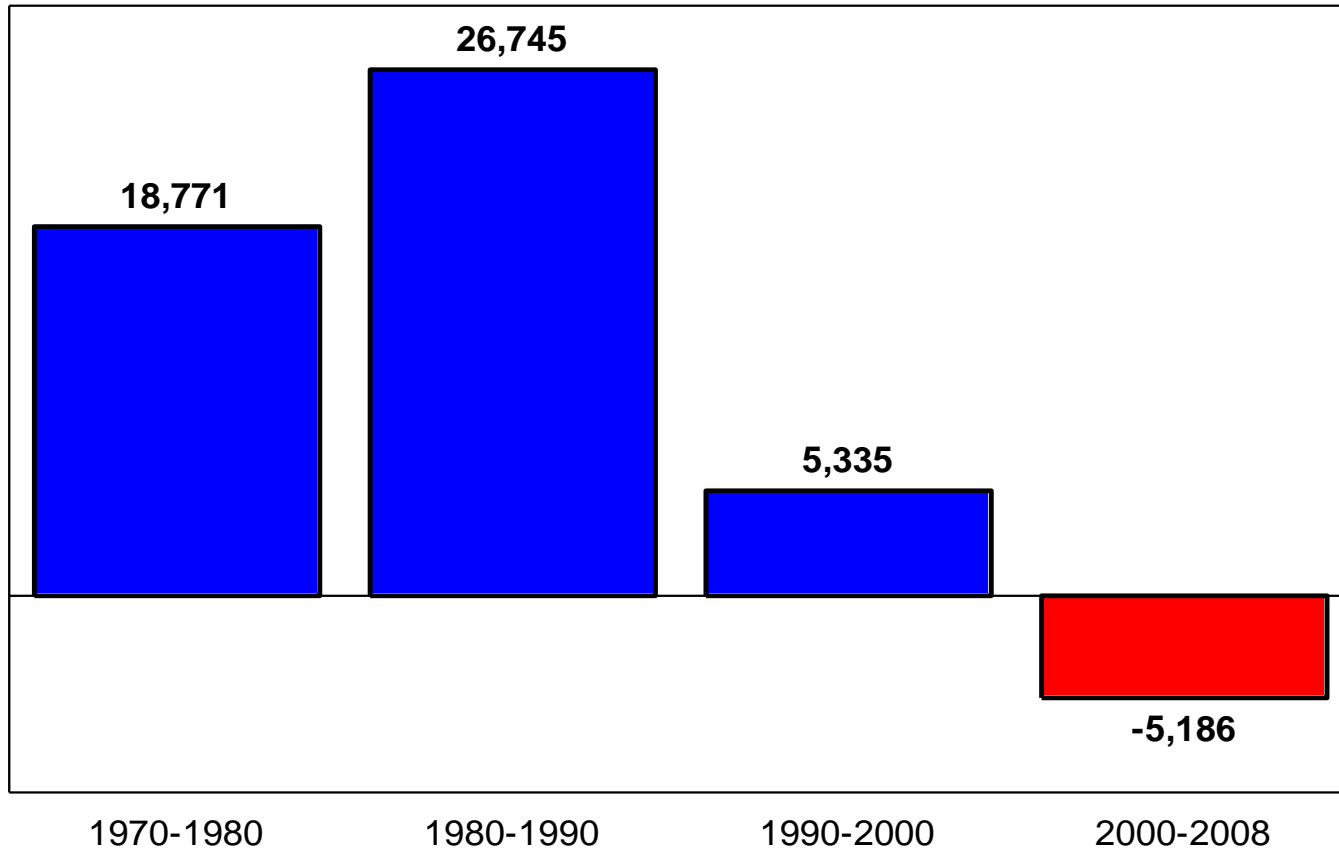
Population



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

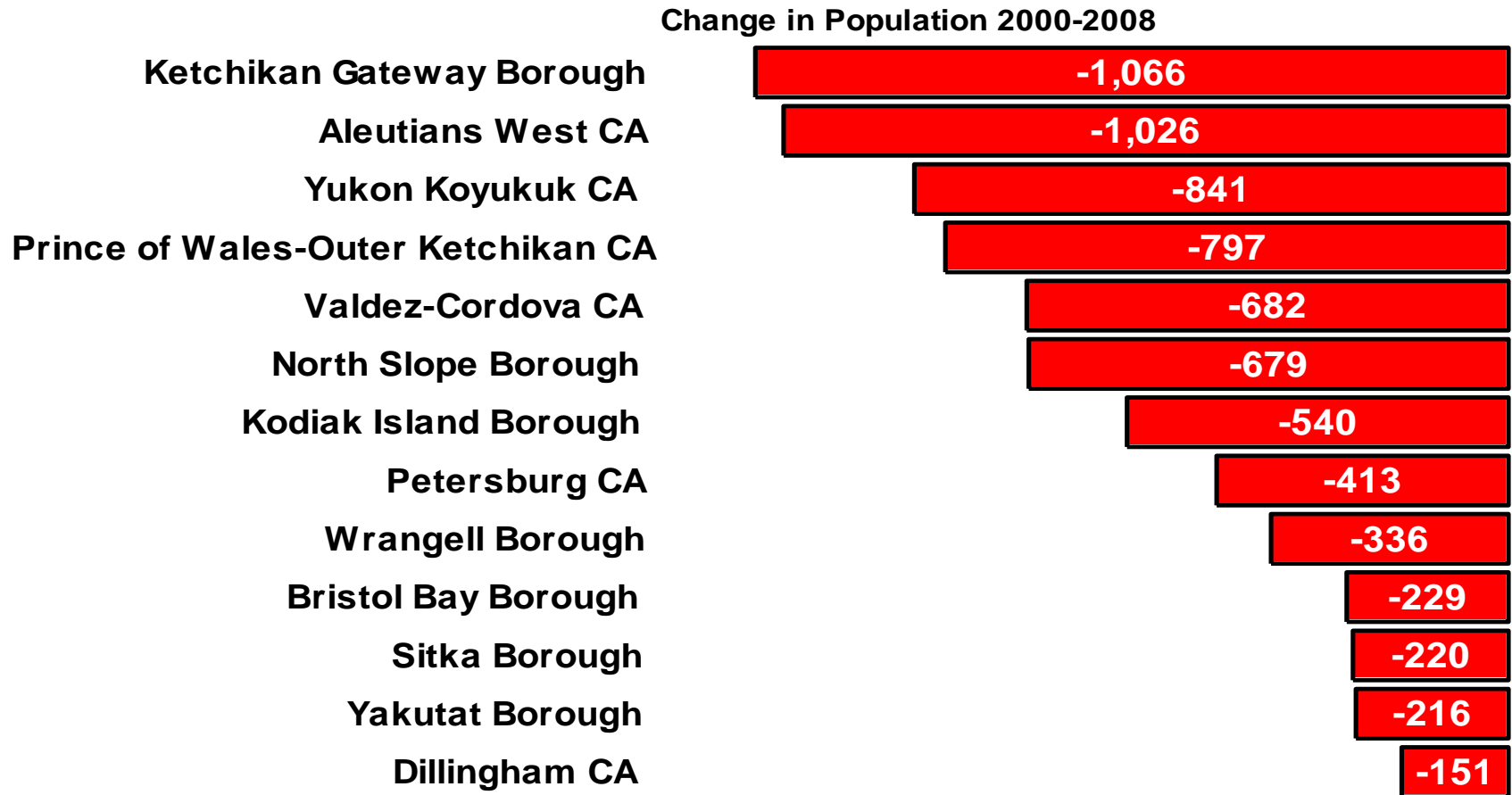
# Changes in Alaska's Rural Population

Number of people



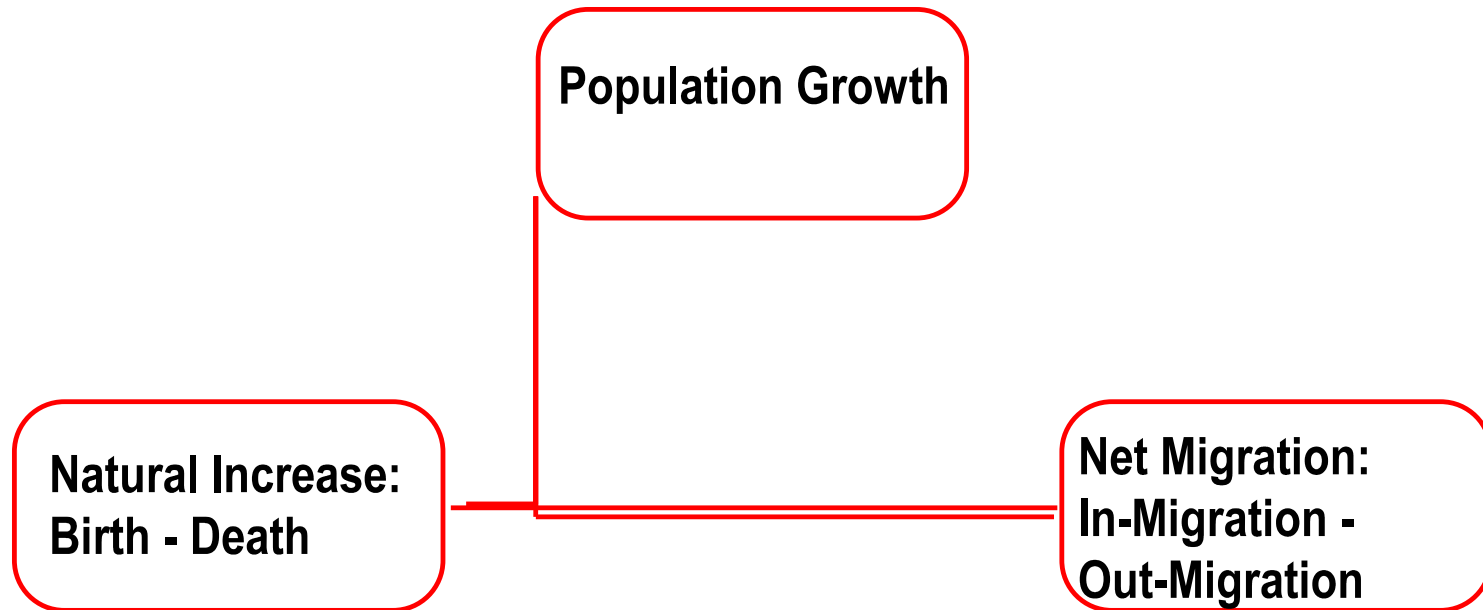
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

# Rural Alaska Boroughs and Census Areas with Population Losses of 100 Persons or More

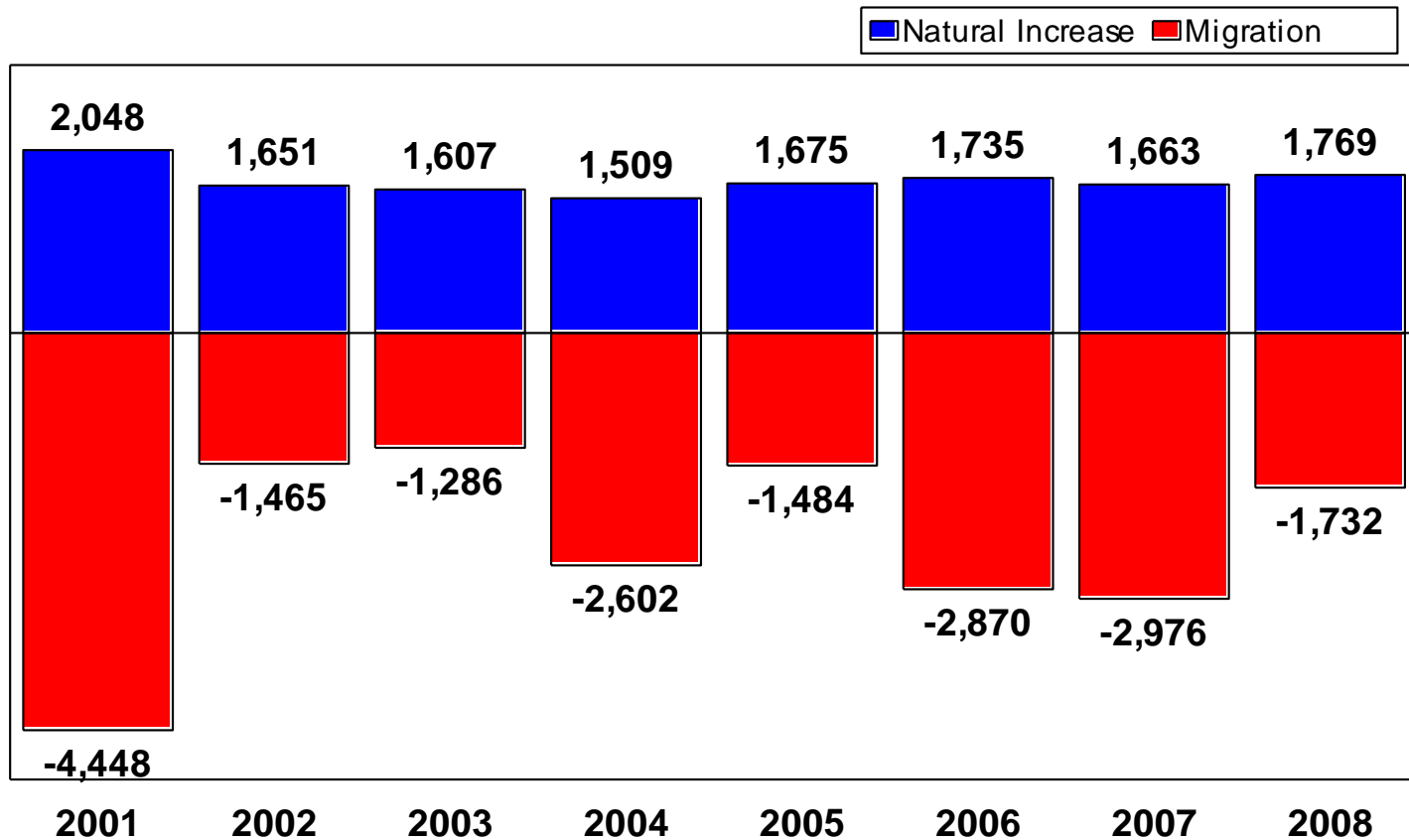


Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

# The Components of Growth



# The Rural Alaska Population Growth Chart

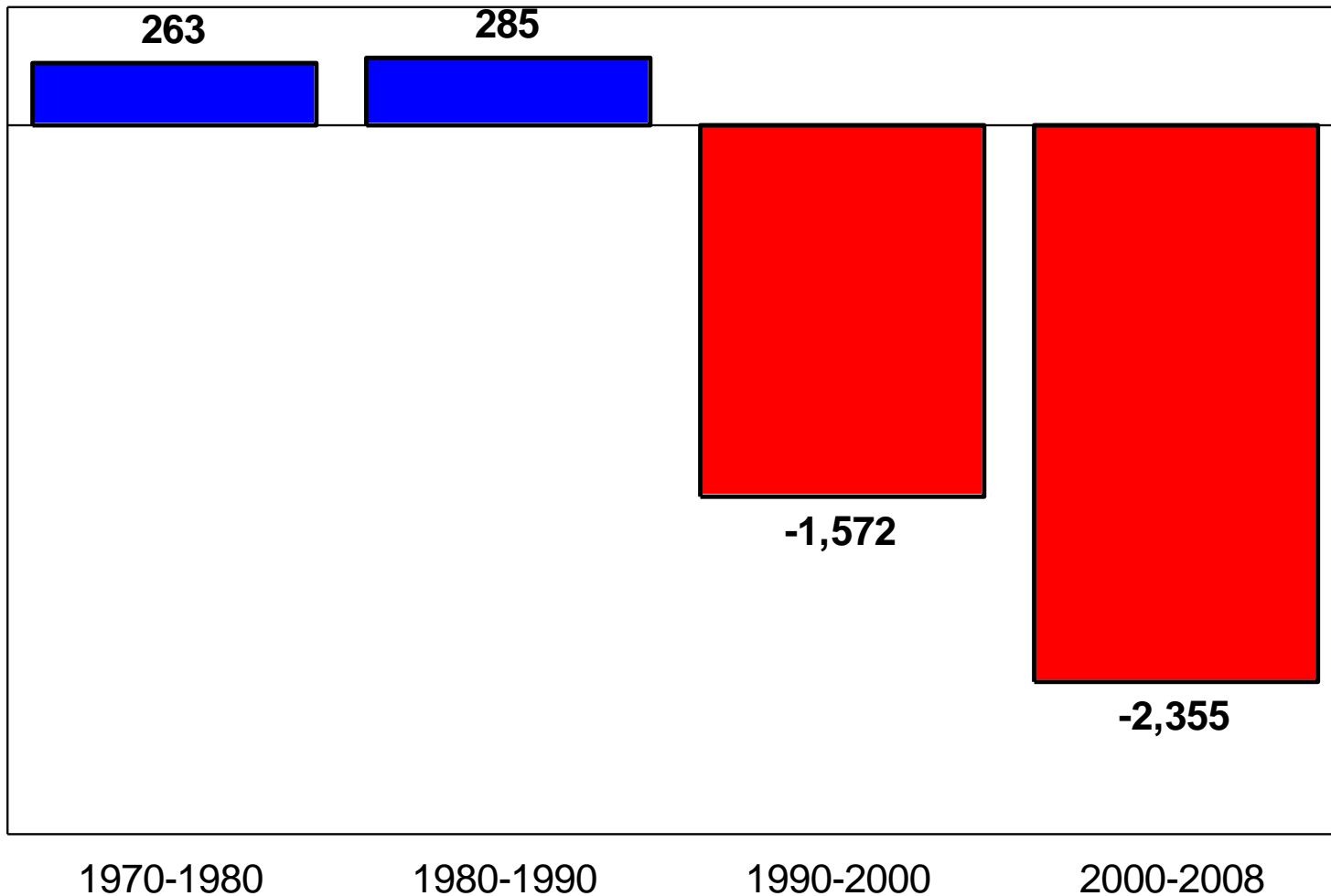


Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section



# Rural Out-Migration Accelerates

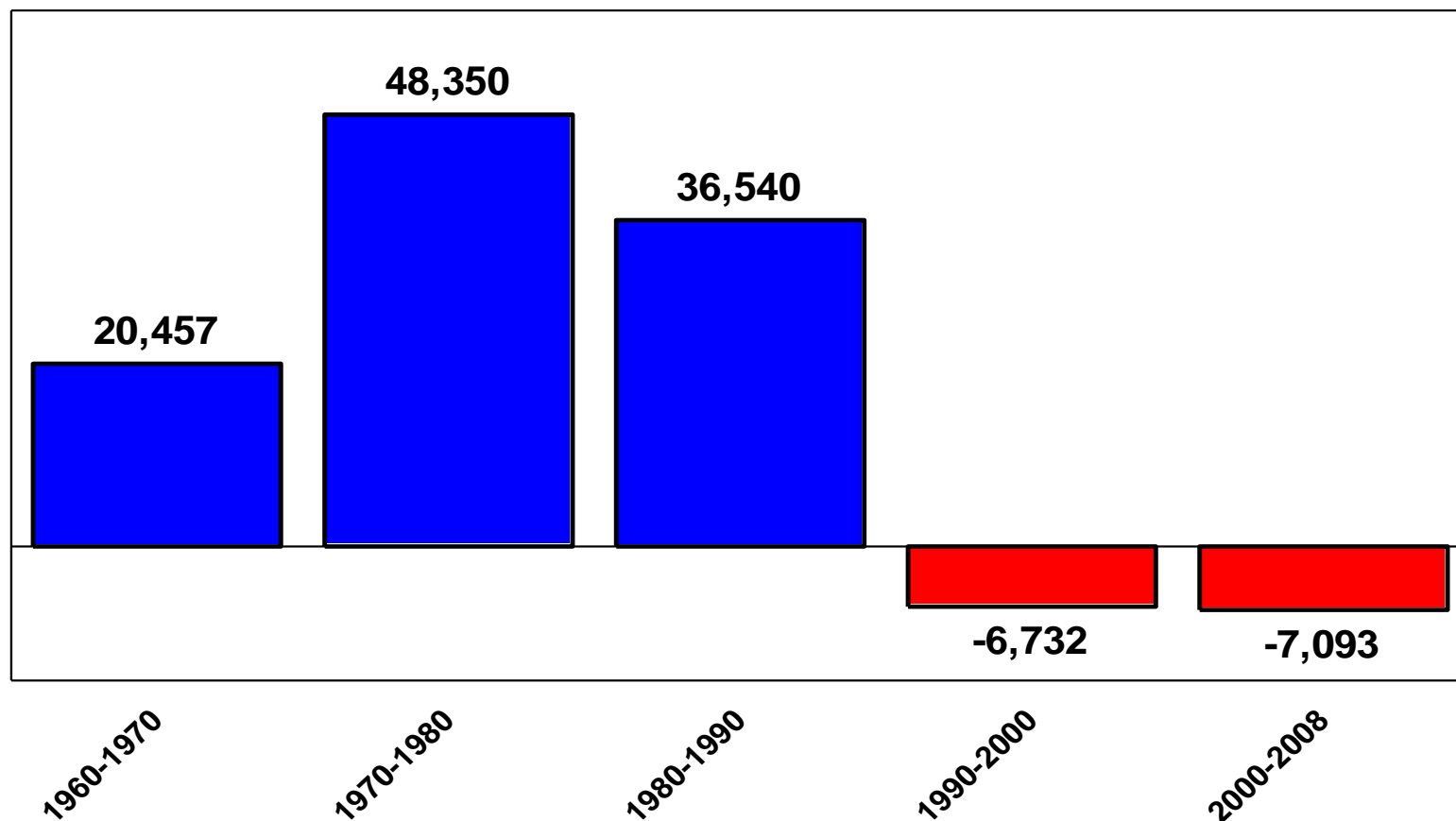
Annual Average Number of Net Rural Migrants



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

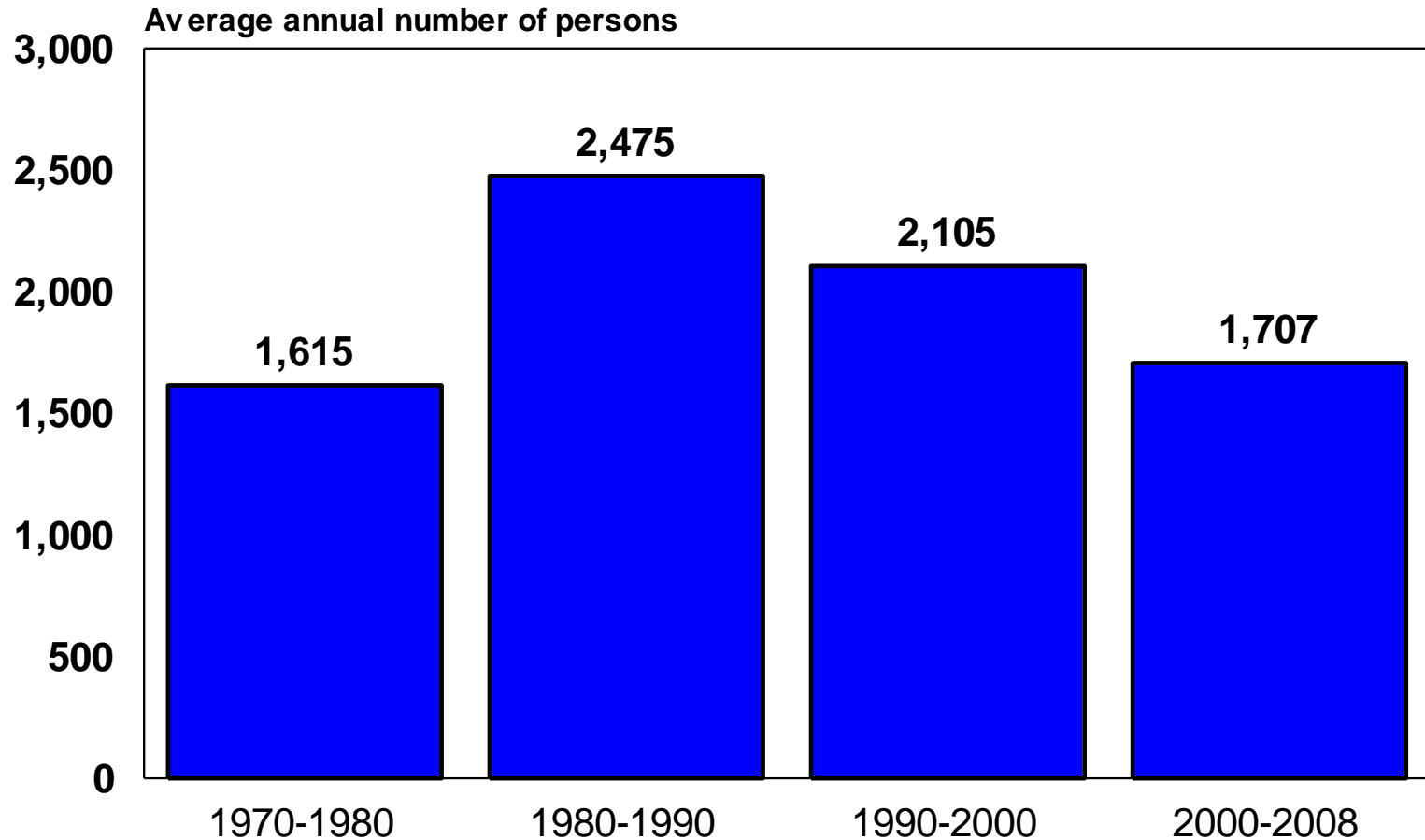
# Alaska's Net Migration Trend Turned Negative

Number of Net Out-Migrants



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

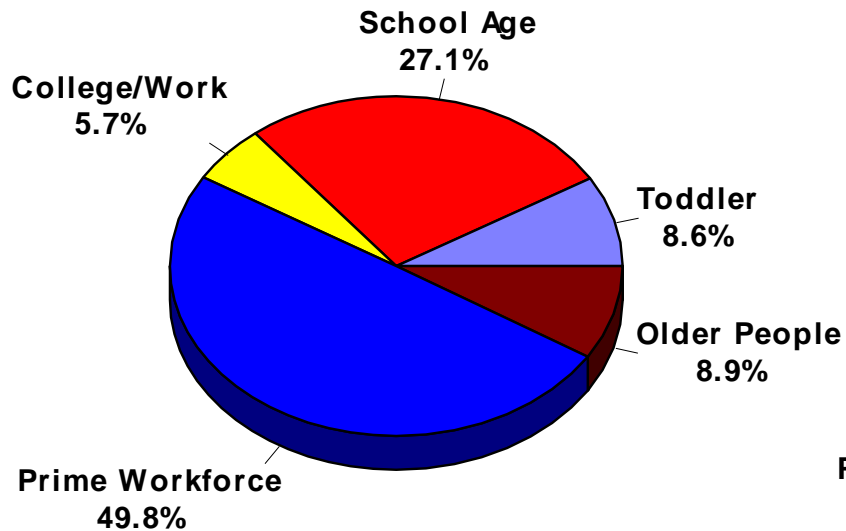
# Natural Increase of Population in Alaska's Rural Areas Slows



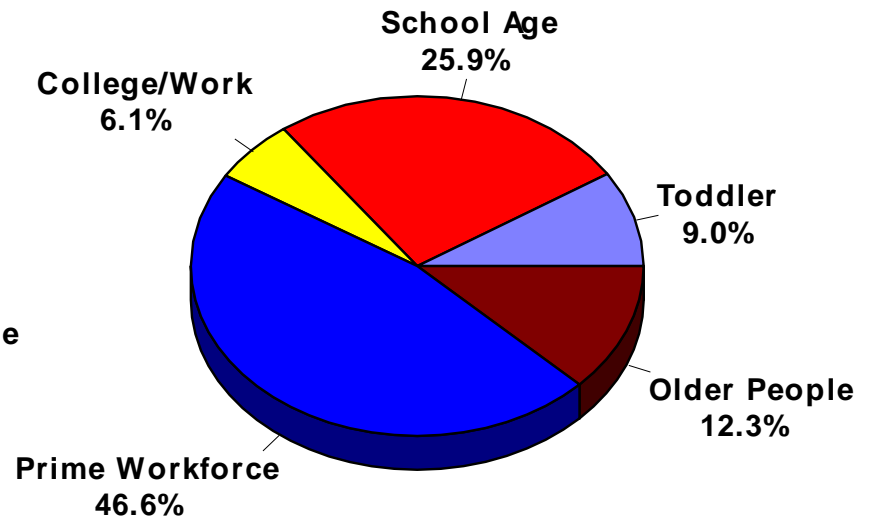
Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section:  
U.S. Census 2000

# The Age Composition In Rural Alaska

**Year 2000**



**Year 2008**



# Where have the boys and male workers gone?

Change in composition 2000-2008

Population Group	Age	Total	Male	Female
Toddler	0-4	222	78	151
School Age	5-19	-3,032	-1,794	-1,238
College/Work	20-24	393	-119	512
Prime Workforce	25-60	-7,049	-4,363	-2,686
Older Population	60+	4,272	2,347	1,925
Total		-5,187	-3,851	-1,336

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

# Growth of the 60+ Population in Alaska's Rural Regions

Change from 2000-2008

Region	Total	Male	Female
Northern Region	20.4%	35.7%	6.4%
Northwest Region	24.6%	24.6%	24.7%
Rural Gulf Coast Region	45.9%	45.8%	46%
Rural Interior Region	43.8%	50.6%	35.8%
Rural Southeast	33.8%	36%	31.5%
Western Region	26%	25%	27%
Southwest Region	22.6%	21%	24.7%
Rural Alaska	33.4%	35.4%	31.2%

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

# Decline of the Rural Workforce Population

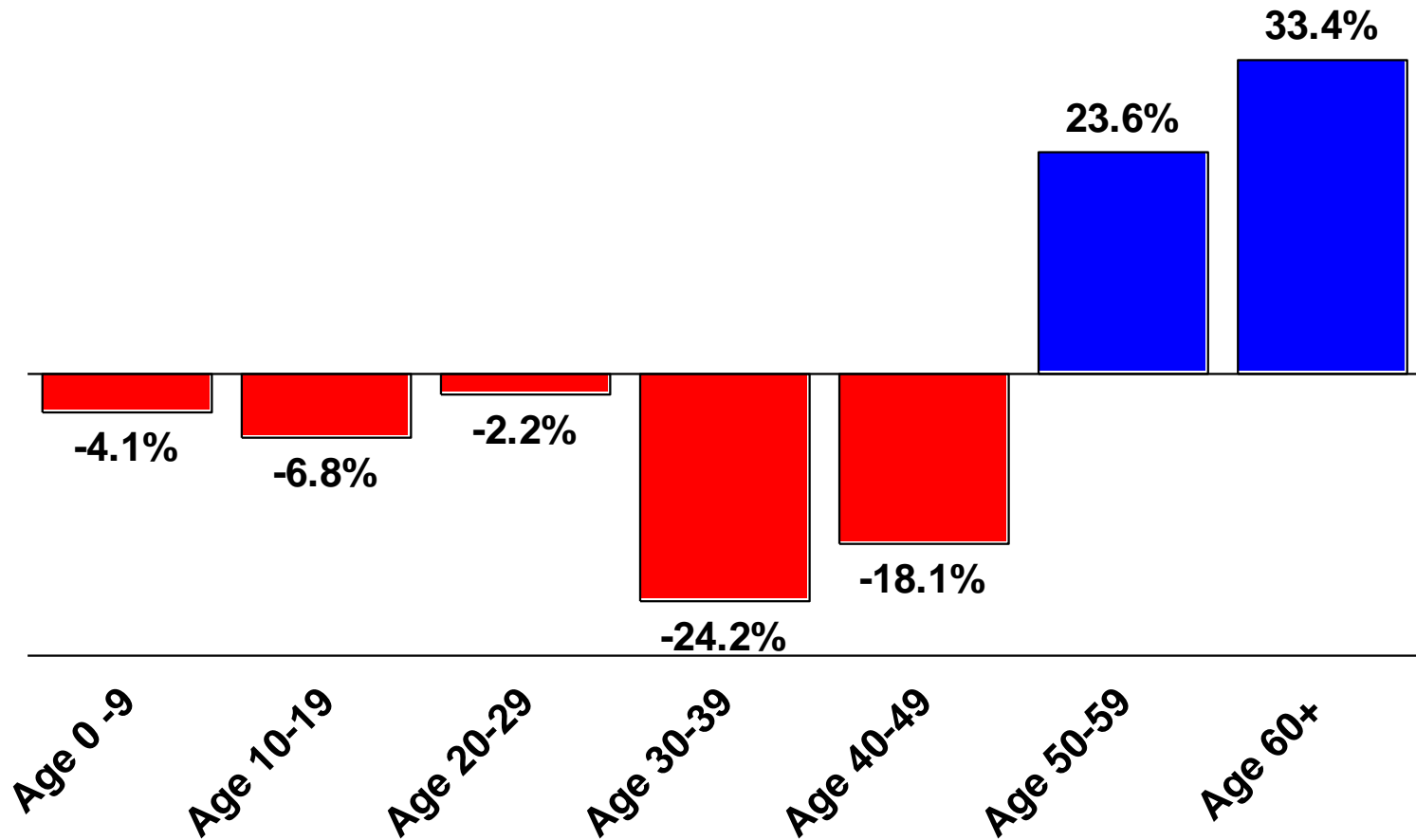
Change 2000-2008

Region	Total	Male	Female
Northern Region	-17.5%	-20.6%	-13.8%
Northwest Region	-7.2%	-12.2%	-0.9%
Rural Gulf Coast Region	-10.5%	-12%	-8.7%
Rural Interior Region	-5.2%	-4.6%	-6%
Rural Southeast	-12.5%	-13.4%	-11.5%
Western Region	-3%	-5%	-1%
Southwest Region	-11.8%	-11.1%	-13%
Rural Alaska	-9.9%	-11.1%	-8%

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

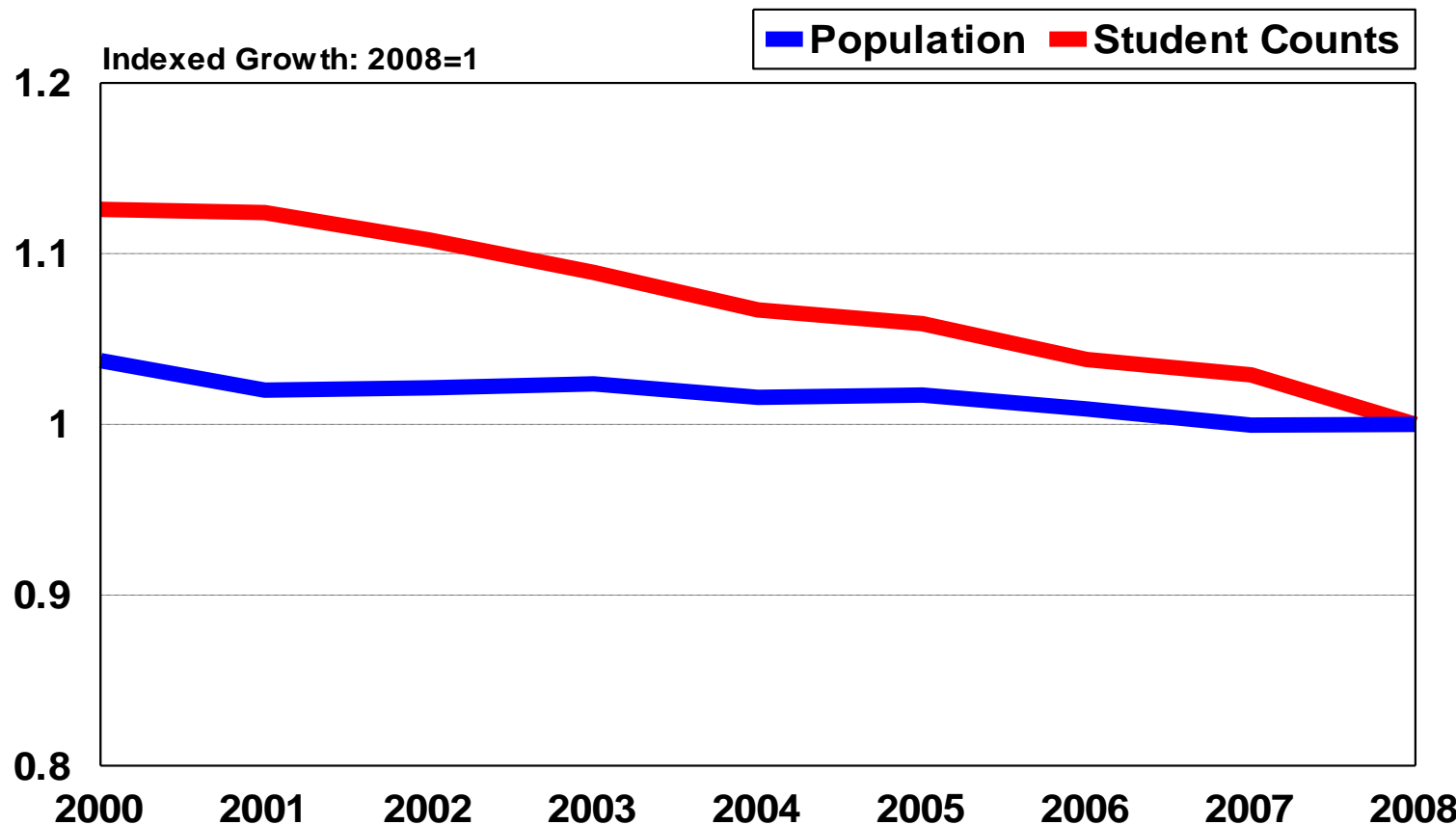
# Demographic Changes in Specific Age Groups

2000-2008





# Rural Student Population Declines faster Than Total Rural Population



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development; Alaska Department of Education and Early Development